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*Deutsche Erde*, 1905, p. 205). We note an uncandid dealing with the Slavs, whereby the Čechs, Slovaks, and Slovenes are left white with the Magyars as "other races" (sonstige Völker), and their relation with other Slavonic peoples south and east is unrepresented. The line of division between the Bulgars and the Serbo-Croats is not in accordance with the political spheres of Bulgaria and Serbia as defined by the secret treaty of 1912.

We are greatly indebted to our correspondent in Berne, and hope to receive the succeeding numbers of this instructive series of "peace maps."

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## REVIEWS

### ASIA

**A Historical Geography of the British Dependencies.**— Vol. 7, India. Part I. (History). P. E. Roberts. Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1916. *Sketch-maps*. 6s. 6d.

THE geography of India is not combined in this work with the history, but is to be dealt with in a separate volume. Only a brief summary of the leading surface features of the country is here prefixed, without which the history would be difficult to appreciate. On broad lines it fulfils its purpose. It might have been pointed out, however, that the mountain barrier could be, and probably was, turned from the west, before the comparatively modern desiccation of Mekran and Seistan took place. Then again it cannot be said that until modern times the Ganges delta was the gate of India from the sea, unless the period before the Portuguese settlements be ignored. The history is that of India as a British Dependency, so previous events are treated cursorily. In the account of the earlier transactions of the various trading companies which settled along the coasts a commendably full use is made of the records of the British East India Company, now available, thanks to the indefatigable researches of Mr. W. Foster. The next section of the volume is occupied with a fairly comprehensive account of the Anglo-French struggles for supremacy in Southern India, and the rest is concerned with what happened after the course of events had assumed a more definitely political character. Before this, the history being that of a number of separate and isolated settlements, the narrative has to sway from one side of India to the other, but from the time of Clive the sequence is, as usual, that of the term of office of the successive heads of British Indian administration. A considerable portion of this section is devoted to the "purple patches" of controversy which arose in the latter half of the eighteenth century, upon which much fresh light has been thrown within the last twenty-five years or so. The case on both sides is fairly set forth, and the judgment of the author is, on the whole, impartial. The more accurate results of modern investigation, however, have against them the literary brilliance of Burke and Macaulay, whose damnatory verdicts will long continue to warp the judgment of the more youthful students of the rise of British rule in India. The later narrative follows the usual lines, with the incorporation of some useful information upon special points culled from recent biography. There is a good index.

J. A. B.

**Provincial Geographies of India—The Panjab, North-West Frontier Province and Kashmir.**— Sir James Douie, M.A., K.C.S.I. Cambridge University Press. 1916. *Maps and Illustrations*. 6s. net.

Every part of India has its special interest, and none more markedly than the region described in this volume. The height and breadth of the mountain

rampart on the north, the depth and volume of "Abu Sindh," or Father Indus, on the west, and the desert on the south, leave only the upper Jamna basin open for free intercourse with its neighbours, and it is here that the Panjab merges almost imperceptibly into a more typical India. From the opposite direction wave after wave of foreign irruption across the Lower Indus or by the Kabul Passes have left their traces upon the character and religion, and also to a certain extent upon the blood of the population. Here, accordingly, problems have to be solved which do not arise in other Indian provinces. Border tribes have had to be controlled; a martial people, in arms against the British less than seventy years ago, have had to be conciliated, and mighty rivers harnessed for the fertilization of vast tracts of land otherwise unproductive. It is fitting, therefore, to place the description of the Province and its surrounding States in the hands of one who has been associated with the administration, from the charge of a district to that of the Province, for thirty-five years, and is consequently intimate alike with the highways and byways of the whole country and with the life of its inhabitants. This familiarity and the sympathy bred of it is apparent throughout the work, and where the subject is highly technical, as in the case of geology and numismatics—the latter being of unusual importance in the Panjab—the author has enlisted the help of well-known experts. The result is a mine of trustworthy information, especially to those who refer to it upon some definite point. On the other hand, a thorough knowledge of the subject in all its details and difficulties tends occasionally towards an elaboration of its subdivisions somewhat confusing to one whose object is to obtain a general view of the conditions as a whole. The form, in fact, is more that of a Gazetteer than a geographical study, and the work would be improved by a closer co-ordination of the physical features with the history and life of the people upon whom they react, and by whom they have been adapted to current needs. It may be suggested, too, as tending in the same direction, that the geographical unity of the three tracts, to which, as well as to their political unity, attention is directed by the editor, would be best demonstrated by the inclusion of all three in a single map; or, at least, that in the otherwise adequate maps of each division appended to the volume the adjacent territories should be indicated. It may be noted in passing that in more than one place in the text there is a transposition, probably typographical, of east and west: also, in treating of rivers as tortuous as some of those described, it is safer to locate places or natural features in reference to them by the bank, rather than by the point of the compass. The work is copiously provided with illustrations which have the signal merit of being really illustrative. J. A. B.

## AMERICA

**The Conquest of Virginia. The Forest Primeval.** An Account, based on original documents, of the Indians in that portion of the continent in which was established the first English colony in America.— By **Conway Whittle Sams, B.L.** New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1916. *Maps and Illustrations.* 18s. net.

In calling his book 'The Conquest of Virginia' Mr. Sams wishes to emphasize the fact that Virginia was not colonized by Englishmen without a struggle with the original possessors of the land. But the title is misleading, not only because he gives no account of the conquest, but also because in a military sense the word "conquest" does not convey a correct idea of the course and outcome of Indian warfare in Virginia. Captain John Smith did in fact propose to the Virginia Company a regular campaign against the Indians